

Message Text

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46

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 OMB-01 AEC-11 IO-14 OIC-04 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3725

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13949

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, UR

SUBJECT: MBFR: SOVIET VIEWS

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. OLEG SOKOLOV, WHO WORKS ON MBFR BACKUP IN MFA, ACCOSTED EMBOFF AT SPASO RECEPTION NOVEMBER 6 TO MAKE TWO POINTS REGARDING CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS: A. ATTEMPT TO AGREE ON PRINCIPLES WILL BE FRUITLESS; THEREFORE IMPORTANT THING IS TO GET DOWN TO CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS. SOKOLOV SAID PRINCIPLES OF TWO SIDES, E.G. AS REGARDS WHAT CONSTITUTES BALANCE, ARE BASICALLY IRRECONCILABLE. WHEN EMBOFF NOTED THAT AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES HAD BEEN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN SUCCESS OF SALT I, SOKOLOV DIMISSED THE POINT AND NOTED THAT BERLIN NEGOTIATIONS SHOWED VALUE OF SETTING ASIDE IRRECONCILABLE PRINCIPLES AND GETTING RIGHT TO SPECIFICS. WHEN EMBOFF ASKED IF BY THIS SOKOLOV MEANT EXCHANGE OF CONCRETE

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PROPOSALS, SOKOLOV SAID THAT WAS EXACTLY WHAT HE MEANT.

B. SOKOLOV ALSO RE-EMPHASIZED POINT HE HAD MADE TO US EARLIER (REFTEL) -- THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE ABOUT REDUCTIONS, NOT ABOUT ASSOCIATED MEASURES. LATTER SHOULD BE LEFT TO LATER STAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS.

2. SOKOLOV SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO PUT WEDGE BETWEEN U.S. AND ALLIED (AS WELL AS ROMANIAN) POSITIONS ON THESE ISSUES. HE SAID HE FELT U.S. AND THE USSR SHOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER ON THESE SUBJECTS, REGARDLESS OF VIEWS OF "SOME SMALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES."

3. WHEN EMBOFF RAISED QUESTION OF HUNGARIAN PARTICIPATION, SOKOLOV SHOWED NO FLEXIBILITY, SAYING THAT "FOR US, MATTER IS CLOSED." AGAIN HE NOTED THAT PROBLEM OUGHT NOT TO BE AN ISSUE BETWEEN U.S. AND USSR.
DUBS

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